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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1897.

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THE MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN AND BRITISH ASSOCIATIONS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

THE current progress of science and the activity of scientific thought in the civilization of the present day have been signalized in a noteworthy manner by the meetings of the American and British Associations for

the Advancement of Science, and of kindred societies, held recently at Detroit and Toronto. As might have been expected, the meeting of the American Association at Detroit and that of the British Association at Toronto both fell somewhat short of the average numbers in attendance; but, on the other hand, both meetings were above the average in the number and quality of the addresses and papers presented and in the enthusiastic interest of the participants. The meetings of the affiliated societies were marked likewise by the high order of the papers read and by the profound interest of the discussions and conferences of the members and foreign guests in attendance. To one present at these meetings and cognizant of the zeal, fidelity and good cheer of the delegates assembled, it would hardly appear that scientific men are seriously disturbed by those publicists who think that science will soon overreach itself, if it has not already fallen into 'bankruptcy.' Nor could one who heard a number of the scholarly addresses delivered at these meetings, addresses remarkable for their literary finish as well as for the value of their contents, entertain the scholastic fear that the perfume of the